

By Tom Strode

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Leonard Leo, chair of the **United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)**, said, "Each year, more and more countries are recognizing that laws protecting religions from 'defamation' or criticism increase intolerance and human rights violations, instead of reducing these problems. Religious intolerance is best fought through efforts to encourage respect for every individual's human rights, not through national or international anti-blasphemy laws."